



The Old Ironsides Report

6 Aug 2003

Volume I Issue 16

Baghdad Tourism School Graduates First Class since War

Story and Photo by Spc. Ryan Smith
372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq - - The Baghdad Institute for Tourism and Hotel management vocational school held its first commencement ceremony since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The institute, in the Tissa Nissan neighborhood, formerly known as Saba Nissan, was restored after the war thanks in part to efforts by soldiers from the 411th Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Danbury, Conn. A detachment from the 411th runs the Civil Military Operations Center (CMOC) located behind the school.

The school building was heavily damaged by looting after the war, said Maj. Ralph S. Roper Jr., director of the Tissa Nissan CMOC. "The air-conditioners and furniture were taken and the equipment inside was destroyed," he said.

However, the school has been mostly restored, and classes resumed there recently. This year's class graduated before an audience of military representatives and other dignitaries, including Col. Bradley W. May, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment commander, and Ambassador Pietro Cardone, the Italian ambassador to Iraq and senior adviser to the Iraqi Ministry of Culture.

May told the graduates he was proud of the soldiers who helped restore the school and of the soldiers who provided security for the area, as well as of the graduates for completing their studies.

The 2nd ACR is working to provide a secure environment in their area of responsibility in Iraq so that institutions such as the tourism school can improve the quality of life for people in Iraq, May said.

"It's important for the Iraqi people to get their lives back in order."

"This is the future of Iraq," Roper said. "Tourism is one of the things that will determine how successful Iraq will be because it brings a great deal of revenue into the economy."

The tourism industry will also allow people around the world the opportunity to see Iraq's thousands of years of history and unique culture.

"We've done a lot here, but we still have a lot more to do," Roper said. "Working together with the Iraqis, we're going to be successful."



Ambassador Pietro Cardone, the Italian ambassador to Iraq and senior adviser for the Iraqi Ministry of Culture, awards a diploma to one of the top five graduates of the Baghdad Institute for Tourism and Hotel in Baghdad August 2.

A Smart Tip from 1AD Safety

SOLDIERS HAVE RECEIVED SERIOUS INJURIES DUE TO FALLS FROM STAIRS, LADDERS, AND ONE SOLDIER FELL THROUGH LOOSE FLOORING ON THE SECOND FLOOR TO THE FLOOR BELOW.

- ✓ ENSURE STEPS ARE SECURE AND STABLE
- ✓ BEWARE OF LOOSE FLOORING
- ✓ CARRY AND USE YOUR FLASHLIGHT
- ✓ BEWARE OF UNEVEN WALKING SURFACES
- ✓ REMOVE OBSTRUCTIONS (i.e. Wires, Cables, Rocks)
- ✓ BE ALERT WHEN WALKING AROUND TENT STAKES, ROPES AND ANTENNA WIRES

SPORTS

Judge Denies Bryant

USA Today

EAGLE, Colo. — The judge in the Kobe Bryant case Monday rejected the NBA star's request to keep cameras out of the courtroom during a hearing Wednesday on a sexual assault charge. Bryant's attorneys argued that allowing the cameras could jeopardize Bryant's right to a fair trial.

Rain Spoils Hall Game

USA Today

CANTON, Ohio — The Kansas City Chiefs beat the Green Bay Packers 9-0 in the Pro Football Hall of Fame game, shortened Monday night by lightning and torrential rain. The exhibition opener for both teams also had a sobering moment when Chiefs offensive tackle Willie Jones sustained a head injury.

Lewis Scraps Klitschko Rematch, May Opt for Retirement

USA Today

Heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis hasn't announced that he is retiring, but it looks like he could be moving in that direction. Lewis, who was expected to face Vitali Klitschko in a Dec. 6 rematch, will not fight again this year, Lewis attorney Judd Burstein said Monday.

Royals Outslug White Sox 13-9

Associated Press

CHICAGO- Aaron Guiel hit a three-run double in a seven-run sixth inning and the Kansas City Royals beat the Chicago White Sox 13-9 Monday night to extend their AL Central lead to three games. The Royals snapped a five-game losing skid to the second-place White Sox and regained some of the momentum they lost after being swept in a three-game series in Kansas City last week.



"Football takes my mind off baseball."

ENTERTAINMENT

Bestsellers

Books

1. Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
-- J.K. Rowling
2. Seabiscuit: An American Legend
-- Laura Hillenbrand
3. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution
-- Robert C. Atkins
4. The South Beach Diet
-- Arthur Agatston
5. The Da Vinci Code
-- Dan Brown

Albums

1. Bad Boys II - Soundtrack
2. Jackpot -- Chingy
3. Dangerously in Love -- Beyonce
4. Red Dirt Road -- Brooks & Dunn
5. Chapter II -- Ashanti

Singles

1. Crazy in Love -- Beyonce featuring Jay-Z
2. Rock Wit U (Awww Baby) -- Ashanti
3. Right Thurr -- Chingy
4. Magic Stick -- Lil' Kim featuring 50 Cent
5. Never Leave You - Uh Ooh, Uh Ooh! -- Lumidee

Carly Simon Gives Away Who is 'So Vain'

EDGARTOWN, Mass. (AP) — Carly Simon will finally reveal who's so vain to a man with major connections in the media world. But Dick Ebersol, chairman of NBC sports and NBC Olympics, said he'll never tell once Simon divulges to him the subject of her 1972 song *You're So Vain* after a private performance in about two weeks. Ebersol won the information with a \$50,000 bid in a charity auction; he also gets a lunch of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. "It won't be hard to keep a secret," he said on NBC's Today show Tuesday morning. Ebersol said Simon gave him one clue about the man's identity that she said he could reveal: He has the letter "e" in his name. That could be any of the chief suspects: actor Warren Beatty, whom Simon dated; Mick Jagger, who sang backup on the song; and her ex-husband, James Taylor.

NEWS

Troops, Aid Move Toward Liberia Capital
MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) - West African troops and desperately needed aid flowed toward Liberia's nearly cut-off capital Tuesday, as relief groups jumped at deployment of the first peacekeepers to hurry food and medical supplies to the rebel-besieged city. Arrival of the first troops, although still unseen in the city, brought a dramatic easing of two weeks of gun battles in Monrovia.

Palestinians Cancel Summit With Israel
JERUSALEM (AP) - A planned summit between the Israeli and Palestinian prime ministers fell apart Tuesday as a U.S.-backed peace plan hit a rough patch over a Palestinian shooting attack and Israeli plans for a limited prisoner release. The Palestinians reacted with scorn over Israel's announcement that it would release 440 Palestinian prisoners Wednesday. The Palestinians want more freed and say the list contains few long-serving detainees.

Parts of Glacier National Park to Reopen
WEST GLACIER, Mont. (AP) - Parts of Glacier National Park's west side are scheduled to reopen to visitors on Tuesday, although tourists won't be allowed to stop along some stretches. Glacier Superintendent Mick Holm praised firefighters' gutsy work - especially lighting timber and other fuels to stall the advancing main fire - for protecting the area.

13 Die in Car Bombing Near Jakarta Hotel
JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) - A powerful car bomb exploded in an apparent suicide attack outside the Marriott hotel in downtown Jakarta on Tuesday, killing 13 people and wounding 149 - including two Americans. Shattered glass and puddles of blood covered the ground for two blocks around the hotel after the bombing, which came amid fears that Islamic militants still pose a threat to security here after last year's Bali bombings.

Chaplain's thought for the day:
Give Everything to God

Hudson Taylor, missionary to China and founder of what is today known as the Overseas Missionary Fellowship, gave this excellent advice: "Let us give up our work, our plans, ourselves, our lives, our loved ones, our influence, our all, right into [God's] hand; and then, when we have given all over to Him, there will be nothing left for us to be troubled about."

Oddly Enough:

Police Hunt Naked Hiker

LONDON (Reuters) - Worried police are searching for a naked Rambler who has been enjoying the sights along a famous British walking trail wearing only a floppy hat and a pair of hiking boots, the Times newspaper reported Tuesday. The man has startled other rambles on several occasions in the past fortnight during his walks in the Yorkshire Dales in northern England, where he has been seen at several points on the 270-mile Pennine Way. During one sighting, the Rambler -- described as in his late 30s, of athletic build and sporting an all-over tan -- was reported to have said a cheerful "good afternoon" to a woman. On another occasion he obligingly covered up, temporarily, after a male passer-by told him to put some clothes on. Acting Chief Inspector Tadeusz Nowakowski, who is leading the hunt, said the mystery Rambler could face charges of outraging public decency. "These incidents might be quite tame, but the police are taking them seriously due to the distress they have clearly caused to the public," the Times quoted Nowakowski as saying. "Imagine if your wife was stuck up on her own in the Dales, having her sandwiches and a bit of a nap when suddenly this man comes bumbling around the corner," Nowakowski said.

On This Day In History: *August 6th 1890*

On August 6, 1890, baseball great Cy Young pitched his first professional game, leading the Cleveland Spiders past the Chicago White Sox. Over the course of his 22-year career, Young won at least 509 games and averaged more than 23 victories a season. He was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1937. Born Denton True Young in Gilmore, Ohio, on March 29, 1867, Young earned his nickname when a bystander observed that he could throw a ball with the force of a cyclone. He played for the Cleveland Spiders from 1890 until 1901 before moving to the Boston Red Sox in the American League. He finished his career with the Cleveland Indians, also in the American League. The Cy Young Award, instituted in 1956, is given annually to the best pitcher in each professional league.

(From the Library of Congress American Memory historic collections.)